

# SCOTT COUNTY KICKER.

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No. 24

## Your Lieutenant-Governor is a Fugitive.

### Several State Senators Indicted by the Grand Jury for Boodling.—The "Party" in a H—ll of a Fix.

Well, Mr. Vote 'er Straight, it is up to you. How do you like the developments of the past two weeks?

Are you satisfied with your lieutenant-governor being a fugitive from the state?

Are you satisfied that many of your representatives(?) in the legislature must line up with Ed. Butler's House of Delegates in answering boodle charges?

Your own state senator—the Honorable John E. Marshall—has twice been called before the grand jury. It is evident that he was mighty close to where boodling transactions were under consideration, else his presence before the investigating grand jury would not be so important. Of what importance could the testimony be of a senator that knew nothing?

It is said that D. J. Kelley, the Baking Powder Trust agent, disbursed \$40,000 to defeat the repeal of the "pure food law." According to newspaper reports the grand jury has learned of fifteen \$1,000 bills that were "placed."

The repeal of the "pure food law" was killed in the senate. The vote was a "tie," and the deciding vote was cast by the lieutenant-governor, who presides over the senate and casts the deciding vote in case of a tie.

Up to date all the senators caught with \$1,000 bills voted against the repeal of the law. The lieutenant-governor had a \$1,000 check. There were sixteen senators that voted favorable to the trust, and the grand jury has learned of fifteen \$1,000 bills being about.

How many senators that voted trustward and received \$1,000 bills the Kicker does not know, but it is difficult to understand how any honest man could vote against the repeal of this infamous and notoriously trust-made law.

The senators that voted with the lieutenant-governor to kill the bill were Frank H. Farris, W. P. Sullivan, Frank Costello, J. W. Buchanan, H. J. Melndue, J. L. Jewell, Chas. A. Smith, John E. Marshall, Geo. T. Lee, David Nelson, J. F. Morton, John Sartorius, E. M. Zevely, E. D. Martin, John P. Collins and Wm. F. Schuchardt.

Of these Farris, Sullivan, Smith and Matthews are known to have been indicted, charged with bribery, and it is pretty certain that several others have been caught in the drag-net.

Your United States Senator—the Hon. Wm. J. Stone—is in the mess up to the neck. He is said to have received \$5,000. But he is proof against prosecution. He got his boodle as a "lawyer." You can't bribe a lawyer. He just takes a "fee."

The Kicker is now eighteen months old. Eighteen months ago this paper told you just what was going on in Missouri. Let me here reproduce a paragraph from my leading editorial in the first issue:

"In Missouri we claim to have a Democratic administration. Democracy means the rule of the people. Was it the people who selected Bill Phelps as a delegate-at-large to the last National Convention? Was it the people who last year called the Democratic State Convention three months in advance of the National Convention—in order to butt off all opposition to the machine-made political 'slate'? Was it the people who passed the so-called 'pure food law,' which gives to the baking powder trust an exclusive monopoly in Missouri and thus forces people to pay three prices for their baking powder? Was it the people who, under the disguise of a 'horse breeder's bill,' gave Ed. Butler, Dave Francis and other 'leading Democrats' exclusive race track and pool-selling privileges in St. Louis? Was it the people who legalized the merciless and arrogant street car monopoly of St. Louis, that has killed, wounded and maimed more of our people in the same length of time than the Spaniards and the Filipinos combined? Was it the people who declared the Third Amendment unconstitutional so that the rich might continue to escape or dodge just taxation? Was it the people who 'hold up' the various measures in our legislature to reduce railroad, telegraph, express and interest rates, as well as many other important measures calculated to relieve the masses? Again I ask, was it the people? Or, was it the politicians doing the bidding of their corporate masters?"

Ah, dear reader, the fact that your lieutenant-governor is hiding out, and that your most talented state senators are indicted, charged with bribery, is no surprise to me. It was only through the timely intervention of "Brown" that Ed. Butler, Cook & Co. were "saved" last year.

The whole mess is rotten, and this fact is known to every man at all familiar with public affairs.

All over the state we have had men who sought to defend it, and who hoped for the best. All over the state we have had men attempting a defense—but often the defenders were no better than the accused, or rather, the convicted.

You know how the editor of this paper has been denounced by the men to whom you have listened for thirty years. You have noticed the constitutional amendments, the printing of the ballots at six prices, the printing of the probate court, the county court and the circuit court all go to a certain newspaper because that paper withheld from you the truth and urged you to "stick to the party."

All this is public printing. Your servants have the placing of it. How do you like their style of placing it in a paper that serves them and deceives you?

It would be an insult to their intelligence to say that the gentlemen who run things in Scott county did not know as much about what is going on at the state capital as does the editor.

But what did they tell you last fall? Quite all of them went over the county making speeches. The first thing they did was to denounce Phil. Hahn as a bolter and a Republican. Then they told you that Missouri was Democratic and that they were proud that they lived in a Democratic state. They told you that Missouri was the best governed state on earth—with the lowest tax rate and the biggest school fund.

But they didn't tell you that the gentlemen responsible for all these blessings(?) would be fugitives from justice before another election! Oh, no. It never occurred to these orators that the gang might undertake to do business in St. Louis, where Joe Folk holds office.

It never occurred to them that their lieutenant-governor would not accept a check dated St. Louis, nor that Senators Farris, Collins, Sullivan and others would go about St. Louis saloons to get \$1,000 bills changed. Nope. They hadn't figured on that.

It may seem a little severe to thus call attention to the efforts of local talent to "save the party" last fall, but there seems to be no excuse for their action. The exposures in the Cardwell case were yet fresh, and the testimony was all highly Democratic. Hence it should have been accepted by Democrats.

That testimony showed clearly that the highest officials were the rankest boodlers, and that any and all kinds of legislation was peddled out for campaign funds by the men highest in authority.

In order that it may be made plain that no one who reads the newspapers need be in ignorance of these facts, the Kicker here reproduces a part of the testimony given in the Cardwell case, which was printed in all the metropolitan newspapers twelve months prior to the election of last fall:

Samuel B. Cook, secretary of state, was called to the witness stand. He testified that he had been chairman of the state Democratic committee for about five years, and was chairman of the committee at the time of the campaign which elected the legislature of 1898. In the campaign of 1898 he had received \$2,100 from Col. W. H. Phelps, of the Missouri Pacific. The treasurer of the state committee had credited Cook with the \$2,000 which Mr. Phelps had paid.

"In the campaign of 1898 did you collect money from the corporations?"

"I think John H. Carroll gave us \$1,000."

"Did you collect \$6,000 from the St. Louis Transit Company?"

"I did not."

"Did Mr. Selbert bring \$6,000 from the Transit company?"

"He brought some money given him by H. S. Priest, a lawyer of St. Louis."

"Attorney for the Transit company, wasn't he?"

"I believe he was."

"Did Mr. Selbert get other money and bring it to you?"

"I think he collected \$3,000 or \$4,000 more."

"Did he bring most of it himself?"

"Did Mr. Selbert tell you where he got the money?"

"No; I understand Mr. Priest and Col. Carroll assisted Mr. Selbert in gathering this money. I don't know where they got it."

Cook said Selbert went to St. Louis to raise money and help in the campaign. He had gone out and got money and handed most of it himself. About the last money the witness had given the Re-

publicans \$5,000, I understand, and they came to us and offered \$2,500 for our campaign fund. It was given to Mr. Selbert by the brewers' agent, with the request that it be not reported in the ordinary channels. They did not want the Republicans to know they had given us any money."

Cook said he knew where Selbert disbursed the money in the close counties of the state.

TRANSIT COMPANY'S CONTRIBUTION.

Referring to the transit company's contribution of \$6,000, Walsh asked if important legislation affecting the Transit Company was not passed in 1899. Cook said it was true. He had talked with Judge Priest about the legislation when they met in St. Louis.

Jordan cross-examined Cook, who said he did not know where Priest got the \$6,000 he paid to Selbert. He did not know where Carroll got the money he paid in, but his own check for \$1,000 was Col. Carroll's personal contribution. He knew of the brewers' money, but did not know whether the stock yards company had contributed any money.

"There was no agreement," he said, "made by me or with my authority, consent or knowledge, with any corporation or interest that promised any sort of protection against legislation."

"Did you collect money from the telephone companies?"

"I did not."

"Was money collected from them?"

"I don't know. I never heard of it if there was. I never heard of money being collected from the stock yards until Mr. Randall spoke of it."

"Both might have contributed?"

"As I said, there was money raised through Col. Carroll that I did not trace the origin of."

"HOLDING THE SHELLS."

Cook said he wished to explain what had been referred to in the testimony about the Phelps contribution in 1899.

"I was chairman then," he said, "and Col. Phelps gave me his check for \$100. Afterward we needed \$2,000 more. Col. Phelps paid it. Col. Carroll had paid \$1,000 in the past raised for Gov. Stephens. When it came time for us to file our report a personal friend of Gov. Stephens came to me and, on behalf of the governor, asked that the \$2,000 given by Col. Phelps be entered as having been given by someone else. At this request of Col. Phelps, in compliance with the governor's wishes, I entered the Phelps \$2,000 as paid by myself. I also, in 1898, entered \$1,000 paid by Col. Carroll as collected by myself."

Bear in mind that the man who gave the above testimony was chairman of the State Democracy at the time referred to, and is now your secretary of state.

He admits having falsified the books—an act bordering on forgery. He admits having credited \$2,000 paid by Phelps and \$1,000 paid by Carroll as if contributed by himself.

Under the "corrupt practice" act only a limited amount can be expended, and the law requires that an itemized statement of receipts and expenditures be rendered and sworn to.

If Sam Cook made affidavit that the \$2,000 contributed by Bill Phelps and the \$1,000 contributed by John Carroll was contributed by himself, then why should not Sam Cook be in the penitentiary today?

And yet this man is seriously considering himself as the Democratic candidate for governor in 1904!

But that is not all. Mr. Cook was asked about the "Horse Breeder's bill"—a law for which Mr. Cook was to receive \$5,000 after the governor's signature was attached. Cook admitted having lobbied for the bill, and Gov. Stephens testified that Cook worked hard on him to get him to sign it, and that he did sign it.

Asked if Mr. Cook got the \$5,000 fee, Gov. Stephens answered: "Well, I cannot answer that, but according to what I have told you, my signing the bill removed the only obstacle to his collecting it."

A most startling admission from the governor of a great state. He signs an unworthy law in order that the chairman of the Democratic "party" may collect a \$5,000 fee.

To Correspondents.

The Kicker is especially proud of its correspondents and hopes that all will mail their contributions not later than Tuesday evenings. Every week contributions reach here after the paper has gone to press and can not appear. Our mail service is very bad and letters are often delayed. Correspondents may believe that their contributions were rejected, but the failure to appear is the result of not getting here in time.

This week Blodgett, Koles, Bleda, Commey and New Hamburg are out of pocket. Perhaps they are dodging the sheriff. Don't let it happen again, boys. The Kicker needs your help.

## Heard During Court Week.

Don't stop my paper, printer, Don't strike my name off yet; You know the times are stringent And dollars hard to get. But tug a little harder, Is what I mean to do, And scrape the dimes together— Enough for me and you.

I can't afford to drop it, I find it doesn't pay To do without a paper. However others may, I hate to ask my neighbors To give me theirs on loan. They don't just say, but mean it: "Why don't you have your own?"

You can't tell how we miss it, If, by any fate, Should happen not to reach us, Or come a little late. Then all is in a hubbub And things go all awry. And, printer, if you're married, You'll know the reason why.

The children want their stories, And wife anxious, too, At first to glance it over, And then to read it through; And I read the editorials And scan the book reviews, And read the correspondence And every bit of news.

—Selected.

## From Vanduser.

Lavinia Brock died April 19 at the home of her daughter, Mrs. J. A. Armstrong, at the age of 68 years and 8 months. She was laid to rest by the side of her son, Winfield Bowman, who died a few months ago. She was a good Christian woman, beloved by all who knew her, and leaves a son and two daughters, besides many grandchildren, to mourn her death. The bereaved relatives have the sympathy of this community.

Uncle Doc. Reeves had the misfortune to lose his barn by fire one night last week. Some corn, hay and machinery were destroyed, but the entire loss was not learned.

G. W. Bowman and family, who were here from Hayti attending the funeral of his mother, Mrs. Brock, have returned to their home.

Mrs. Nora Stoffer, of Fulton, Ark., is visiting her mother, Mrs. Mary Givens. She expects to remain here a month or so.

Mrs. Mary Waters and son, Roy, returned to their home at Barfield, Ark., after a two weeks' stay at Vanduser.

Will Schatz and family returned Saturday from Commerce, where they have been visiting the past week.

Dee Potter went to Crowder Saturday night—as usual. What's the attraction down there, Dee?

W. A. Hamilton and wife went to Oran Saturday. We think Will went to trade horses.

Miss Myrtle Harris, of near Morehouse, is visiting friends here this week.

L. P. Woodward and wife were at Morley and Oran shopping Friday.

Jim Wallace says it is too wet to work, so he'll swap horses.

Silvester Matthews had dinner with H. H. Phillips Sunday.

J. S. Wallace was the guest of his Uncle John Sunday.

F. Bryans, of Morley, was seen on our streets Sunday.

Judge Batts was seen on his way to Cape Sunday.

M. A. Jones is about to put up a business house here.

Amon Batts was seen on our streets Sunday.

D. A. Potter went to Benton Monday.

## From Morley.

Benton baseball team came down Sunday to show the Morley boys how to play ball. After 1½ innings had been played it began to rain and play stopped for 15 minutes. When the rain ceased play was resumed, but at the end of the fifth inning, with the score 6 to 2 in favor of Morley, rain came down in torrents and the game was abandoned. Say, you Benton boys better practice up a bit.

Oran has been asked to come down Sunday so we can show them how a real game of ball should be played.

Miss Ella Tomlinson, who has been on the sick list, is able to teach again.

Miss Helen Harris, of Oran, is visiting her cousin, Miss Mabel Tomlinson.

The indicted senator have given bond for their appearance. Quite a number from here attended court in Benton this week.

Edward Dodson was visiting relatives and friends Sunday.

Mrs. S. Boyce is visiting friends in Commerce this week.

Miss M. Stanley and Al. Constant were in Morley Sunday.

There will be an entertainment in the city hall May 9th.

Mrs. Nannie Hunter returned from Sikeston Monday.

Mrs. S. P. Marshall was visiting in Morley Sunday.

Miss Stella Harris left for Farmington Monday.

## From Oran.

On last Sunday afternoon a tornado swept over White Springs, a summer resort in Madison county owned by Scott county capitalists, and wiped out seventeen of the thirty houses there. The large hotel is a wreck.

Nick Brucker and Frances Graesser were married at the Catholic church Tuesday. John Bischie and Martin Brucker acted as groomsmen, and Misses Victoria Brucker and Emma Strack as bridesmaids.

Our public school closed Friday afternoon with an entertainment and old-fashioned spelling match in the evening. The school was a very pleasant and successful term.

BUS WANTED—On the separate or entire work of erecting a brick building for the Oran Catholic congregation. For plans and particulars call on or write the Rev. M. Helmbracher, Pastor.

Quite a number of our people called on Rev. Rudolph and wife last Tuesday evening and left some little token in appreciation of their pastoral services.

Linn Myers, who has been with the Pollard & Goff Dredging Co. for the past two years, spent a few days with relatives and friends here.

Al. Fullenwider was called last week to the bedside of his father at Jackson, Mo. We now learn that his father died and was buried Tuesday.

W. H. Stubblefield made a visit to White Springs to ascertain what damage had been done to his property there by the recent cyclone.

J. W. Clemson, accompanied by his daughter, Mrs. R. J. Williams, visited relatives at Commerce Sunday.

Misses Della Fink, Ruth Mitchell and Jennie Clemson went to the Cape to see the monitor Arkansas.

Will Turner and bride will make their home at Oran. They have rooms with Mrs. Eliza Spradlin.

The electric light plant will furnish 360 lights, and some are being put into the dwellings.

Quite a number of young ladies from Sikeston visited Mr. and Mrs. Jones Sunday.

Miss Ura Jones returned to her home in Sikeston after a visit to Mr. and Mrs. Hinkle.

Tuesday the infant of Mr. and Mrs. Felix Halter was buried at the Catholic cemetery.

Andrew Metz, Jr., who has been laid up with rheumatism, is now able to be up.

Mrs. T. E. Tomlinson, of Morley, was here visiting relatives Monday.

Our mill started Wednesday and has been running steady since.

Birch Dyer came home from the Philippines last week.

R. J. Williams has gone to Pine Bluff for a few days.

Miss Clara McKnight visited friends here Sunday.

Geo. Metz, of the Richwoods, was here Monday.

Rev. Moenig was here Friday.

## From Crowder.

Miss Ethel Potter, of Vanduser, visited friends here Saturday night and Sunday. When the boys saw such a happy look on Ed's face they knew without being told that Miss Ethel was here.

Newt Benson was in town Saturday night. He says he likes all the girls at Crowder, but that he likes a certain one better than the others.

J. W. Bennett has sold his house and lot to R. W. Huffstetler and will leave in a few days. We are sorry to lose such a good citizen.

The Culp Lumber Co. started Monday for Gum Ridge with another saw mill. They can furnish you with lumber of all kinds.

Quite a number from Crowder went to Cape Tuesday to see the war ship, but were disappointed.

The ice cream and pie supper given by the T. B. H. lodge Saturday night was quite a success.

Mrs. Lunford, of Morehouse, visited her sisters here last week.

Peter Bothwell, of St. Louis, visited Crowder friends last week.

## From Graysboro.

A very enjoyable dance was given at the home of Mrs. Nora Welch on Friday night. Among those present on the occasion were: Misses L. Knott, Theresa Knott, Effie Wolle, Audrey O'Donnell, Julia Romine, Ella Morrison, Eva Morrison, Sophia Deblinder, Alice Bower, Hattie Williams, Messrs. D. Hornback, Carl Alexander, Frank Capoot, Ray Grandstaff, Newt Tucker, Claude Johnson, Jessie Moss, Wilbur Peck, Harvey Hornback and many others.

Graysboro has some good-looking boys as well as girls—at least Etta Morrison and Audrey O'Donnell think so. What you blushing for, boys?

Mrs. J. D. Van Etten has quite a nice display of millinery in her store and invites ladies to give her a call.

Jessie Moss, Frank Capoot and Ray Grandstaff spent Friday in Graysboro.

## From Rockview.

Frank Felden & Co. went fox hunting the other day and all report a good time. But Bill Scherer says the foxes all turned out to be rabbits.

The dance which was to have been given by Miss Alice Rosenberg on the 16th in celebration of her birthday was not held on account of the rain.

Nick Menz visited his parents at Benton and when returning brought his saddle horse with him. Nick says he is going to quit walking.

If Kelso will build west Rockview will build east, then it will be Kelso and Rockview clear from Delta to Graysboro.

Theodore Essner says he wishes it would rain, as when the water was around here all the girls walked down to the trestle.

Mrs. F. Rosenberg is here from Illinois visiting her mother and her sister-in-law, Mrs. Felden.

The boys hitched up one of T. G. Belk's young horses and they say it sure went up in the air.

R. H. Belk and J. H. Mills with their families visited Lum Jones and family Sunday.

Clarence McLean, of Oran, passed through our burg on his way to Kelso on business.

J. H. McLean, of Oran, was visiting Lum Jones and other friends here this week.

Misses Lizzie and Rosa Holmes went to Cuney hall Easter Monday night.

Louis and John Dohogne were in our burg Monday buying cattle.

Mrs. J. P. Holmes is improving and is now able to be up.

Theodore Essner made a business trip to the Cape Monday.

## From Cary.

The home mission will meet Saturday, the 25th, for the purpose of cleaning up the church yard and fencing it. They will also meet at the graveyard on May 2 and clear it off, and the men will do the fencing. Everybody invited, men and women.

Zeno Bryant and his cousin, Miss Carrie, spent Sunday with their uncle here. How's the mosquitoes, Zeno?

Prayer meeting was well attended Sunday night in spite of the bad weather.

Jack Chewing has had a tussle with the measles, but is better.

George Hodgkins is up after an attack of small pox.

Mrs. John Verabie is very sick.

## The Old Coffee Pot.

I want to hear the simmer Of the old coffee pot.

I want to hear it hummin' When it's gettin' good and hot;

I want to see the vapor rise, Like incense in the room.

And float about a-fillin' Every corner with perfume.

Oh, it isn't very often That a feller gets the best.

But when he does, it's like a whiff A-comin' from the West;

It's like a rush of springtime Across a growin' field.

A-fillin' you with dreams of what The harvest time'll yield.

I love the smell of roses Along about in June,

And I'd hang around and listen To almost any tune;

But the fragrance and the music That nothing else has got

Are the odor and the simmer Of the old coffee pot.

—Red Bud (Ill.) Pilgrim.

## Sikeston Democrat Change.

E. D. Howle, late editor of the Sikeston Democrat, has "gone off."

W. H. Barnes, proprietor of the paper, was here Wednesday and said that Attorney Joe W. Moore had bought a half interest in the paper and that it would be started up under a full head of steam. Mr. Barnes is a Democrat and Mr. Moore is a Republican, and the paper is to have no politics. They are just going after boodle.

## County Court Met Wednesday.

County court met Wednesday to see about making arrangements with the artesian well man. But the man didn't show up, so the court didn't do anything except to appoint Miss Eva Arnold a member of the county board of education, and allowed Uncle Wash Shields \$25.

The board of appeals will meet Monday to hear the kicks of those whose assessments were increased, and indications are that we will have warm times in Benton Monday.

## The Kicker Well Pleased.

The editor is pleased with the way the people flocked in to either subscribe or renew during the week. The callers were so numerous that to make mention of them would occupy too much space. Every subscriber expressed himself as thoroughly satisfied with the paper and many were quite enthusiastic in singing its praises. This of course is encouraging and the paper will continue to howl to the top.

## Circuit Court Proceedings.

Judge Riley arrived Sunday and court began to grind Monday morning. The business of the court was quite different to former terms. The bulk of the civil cases being railroad cases—damages and condemnations. This brought many non-resident attorneys, among whom were Wilson Cramer and John L. Hope, Jackson; Frank Borough, H. B. O'Ver, M. A. Dempsey and Orren W. Cape Girardeau; J. J. and Clark sell H. C. O'Bryan, and Moore L. Charleston; L. W. Fisher and Harry Riley, New Madrid; M. R. Smith, Farmington; Judge Green, Hillsboro.

The week was very quiet, there being no case of local importance before the court.

## CRIMINAL DOCKET.

A. J. Boardman, A. J. McCly, Randall, J. Wilbur, A. Russell, It sum, R. Newell and Henry again paroled.

State vs